

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 DHA-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05  
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FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3255

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 1541

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SHUM, PINS, TPHY, ACLM, BU (MARINOV, STEFANO MARINOV)  
SUBJECT: MARINOV CASE: MARINOV DESCRIBES RECENT IMPRISONMENT

REF: SOFIA 0748 AND PREVIOUS

1. STEFAN MARINOV APPEARED AT EMBASSY JUNE 29, 1977 FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE LAST MARCH 11. HE STATED HE WAS ARRESTED APRIL 15, 1977 AND DETAINED AT "KILOMETER FOUR PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC," THE MORE FORMAL NAME FOR WHICH IS THE INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGICAL AND PSYCHIATRIC RESEARCH. IT HAS BEEN CITED IN PAST BY BULGARIAN EMIGRE GROUPS AS PSYCHIATRIC FACILITY USED BY GOB FOR POLITICAL CASES.

2. MARINOV CLAIMS HE WAS REPEATEDLY INTERROGATED BETWEEN APRIL 15-20 BY SECURITY POLICE ABOUT HIS "INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SPACE-TIME ABSOLUTENESS," WHICH WAS TO HAVE BEEN HELD IN VARNA MAY 5-15. SECURITY OFFICIALS DEMANDED LIST OF INVITEES. MARINOV FEARED THAT IF HE DID NOT COOPERATE GOB WOULD DENY ANY KNOWLEDGE OF HIM OR HIS CONFERENCE AND INVITEES ARRIVING IN SOFIA AND INQUIRING AFTER HIM WOULD REACH CONCLUSION HE WAS A CHARLATAN. ACCORDINGLY, MARINOV AGREED TO ASSIST SECURITY OFFICIALS IN COMPILING LIST AND ON APRIL 20 WAS TAKEN HOME UNDER ESCORT TO SELECT CORRES-  
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PONDENCE NEEDED FOR THIS TASK. MARINOV MADE SEVERAL SCORNFUL COMMENTS ABOUT INEPTITUDE OF SECURITY OFFICERS AND THEIR INABILITY TO COMPILE LIST ON THEIR OWN WHEN THEY ALREADY HAD FREE ACCESS TO HIS PAPERS.

3. MARINOV COMPILED LIST AND SIGNED LETTERS AND CABLES TO INVITEES, AS DRAFTED BY SECURITY POLICE. LETTERS WERE

DATED APRIL 26, 1977 AND EXPLAINED THAT CONFERENCE WAS CANCELLED DUE TO FEARS OF AN EARTHQUAKE IN THE VARNA REGION DURING THE PERIOD OF THE CONFERENCE, AN EXCUSE DEvised BY SECURITY OFFICIALS. ON MAY 3, MARINOV WAS TOLD BY CHIEF OF PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC, A PROFESSOR MILEV, THAT "PROPER AUTHORITIES" HAD DECIDED TO COMMIT HIM TO MENTAL ASYLUM SOMEWHERE IN BULGARIA FOR PERIOD OF ONE YEAR. NEVERTHELESS, ON MAY 5 MARINOV WAS RELEASED. HE BELIEVES REASON FOR RELEASE WERE APPEALS FROM SCIENTISTS ON HIS BEHALF, CABLED FROM SEVERAL COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZED BY HIS BROTHER IN AUSTRALIA.

4. MARINOV STATES THAT DURING HIS INTERROGATION, SECURITY OFFICIALS TOLD HIM THEY KNEW ALL ABOUT HIS REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL COMPENSATION FROM USG MADE TO EMBASSY.

5. MARINOV CLAIMS THAT THREE SCIENTISTS (ENGLISH, AUSTRIAN AND POLISH) VISITED HIM AT HIS HOME DURING PERIOD CONFERENCE WAS TO HAVE TAKEN PLACE, AND THAT THESE THREE LATER PRESENTED LETTER OF APPEAL IN MARINOV'S BEHALF TO BULGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES. DURING MEETING BETWEEN SCIENTISTS AND ACADEMY OFFICIALS, THE FORMER WERE TOLD THAT MARINOV WAS MENTALLY UNSTABLE AND HAD HISTORY OF PSYCHIATRIC PROBLEMS.

6. MARINOV STATED HE RETURNED TO EMBASSY IN HOPES OF REIN-STATING HIS REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL COMPENSATION FROM USG.  
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HE STATED HE HAD MANY DEBTS RELATED TO ORGANIZATION OF ABORTED CONFERENCE AND NO MEANS OF PAYING THEM. APPARENTLY HE USED DEPOSITS MADE BY INTERESTED SCIENTISTS AS ADVANCE CONFERENCE FEES TO PAY FOR ADVERTISEMENTS PLACED IN WESTERN JOURNALS. NOW, THOSE WHO PRE-PAID WANT REFUNDS AND MARINOV HAS NO MEANS OF REPAYING. MARINOV WAS TOLD BY CONSUL THAT USG DOES NOT ADMIT LIABILITY AND CONSIDERS HE HAS NO CLAIM AGAINST IT.

7. MARINOV ASKED FOR EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN FORWARDING TO WESTERN NEWSPAPERS A STATEMENT ABOUT HIS ARREST AND DETENTION. HE WAS TOLD THAT WHILE EMBASSY WOULD ACCEPT STATEMENT OR PETITION FOR FORWARDING TO DEPARTMENT, WE COULD NOT ACT AS CONDUIT OR MAIL SERVICE FOR STATEMENTS TO PRESS. AT CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW, MARINOV STATED HE INTENDS TO APPLY TO GOB FOR PASSPORT AND EXIT PERMIT ON BASIS OF AFFIDAVIT OF SUPPORT FORWARDED HIM BY HIS BROTHER IN AUSTRALIA.  
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## Message Attributes

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